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COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Sixth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIRST PART (PUBLIC)*
OF THE 131st MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Tuesday, 5 April 1994, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairperson: Miss MASON

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* No summary record was prepared for the second part (closed) of the meeting.

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GE.94-16026 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

1. The CHAIRPERSON declared open the sixth session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child and welcomed the members of the Committee.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (agenda item 1) (CRC/C/25)

2. The CHAIRPERSON said that, if she heard no objection, she would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the annotated provisional agenda, contained in document CRC/C/25.

3. The provisional agenda was adopted.

ORGANIZATIONAL AND OTHER MATTERS (agenda item 2)

4. After a brief discussion in which Mrs. BELEMBAOGO, Mrs. SANTOS PAIS and Mr. HAMMARBERG took part, the CHAIRPERSON suggested that, if members so agreed, the Committee would reconvene in closed session at the end of the public part of the meeting to consider the programme of work for the session and, in particular, any alterations to be made to the proposed schedule of work.

5. It was so decided.

SUBMISSION OF REPORTS BY STATES PARTIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 44 OF THE CONVENTION (agenda item 3)

6. Mrs. RAADI-AZARAKHCHI (Secretary of the Committee) said that France, Norway and Burkina Faso had confirmed that they would, in principle, be represented by high-level delegations for the consideration of their reports. She regretted that Mr. Kazmi, head of the delegation of Pakistan, who was to have presented his country's report, was unable to come to Geneva and had had to be replaced at the last minute by members of the Pakistan Mission. With regard to the questions put by the Committee in its lists of issues to be addressed during the consideration of reports, the secretariat had received written replies from Pakistan and Norway. She reminded the Committee that, since the fifth session, the secretariat had received the initial reports of the Holy See (CRC/C/3/Add.27), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (CRC/C/11/Add.1) and Sri Lanka (CRC/C/8/Add.13). Of the 37 reports before the Committee, 16 had already been considered and 3, those of Indonesia, Rwanda and Colombia, had been the subject of preliminary consideration. The secretariat had also received additional information from Indonesia (CRC/C/3/Add.26) and El Salvador (CRC/C/3/Add.28). Mexico and Colombia had sent written replies to the questions raised during the consideration of their reports at the fifth session, but Colombia had not yet submitted the supplementary report requested by the Committee.

7. Mr. HAMMARBERG said that it would perhaps be useful to specify the nature of the information sought from each country so as to avoid any confusion between the additional information supplied in reply to written questions by the Committee and information supplied at the concluding observations stage.

8. The CHAIRPERSON suggested that the Committee might, at the end of each session, send out an official letter confirming the information it wished to receive from each country.

9. Mrs. SANTOS PAIS said that, at its fifth session, the Committee had stressed the importance of follow-up to the consideration of reports submitted under article 44 of the Convention. In her view, the Committee should take a firmer stand with regard to the implementation of follow-up measures and should if necessary remind States parties of their obligations to the Committee.

10. The CHAIRPERSON proposed that the public part of the meeting should be concluded in order to allow members of the Committee to consider at a closed meeting the schedule of work for the session under agenda item 2.

11. The first part (public) of the meeting rose at 11 a.m. The second part (closed) was not covered by a summary record.